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The newsletter of Webster Groves Public Library
Vol. 11 no. 12 — August 2016



KIDS' EVENTS

Story Time with Miss Phyllis

Tuesday, August 9 at 10 a.m.
Tuesday, August 16 at 10 a.m.
Tuesday, August 23 at 10 a.m.
Saturday, August 27 at 2:30 p.m.
Tuesday, August 30 at 10 a.m.

Baby Story Time with Miss Phyllis

Thursday, August 4 at 9:30 a.m.

Pajama Story Time with Miss Phyllis

Wednesday, August 10 at 6:30 p.m.



Minecraft Club

Friday, August 12—Meets at 4:45 p.m., after the Library closes. (Players must have PC/Mac version)



LegoMania!

Saturday, August 13 from 2 - 4 p.m.



Coloring Club: Ages 12 to Adult

Saturday, August 20, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Teen Advisory Board Meeting

Tuesday, August 23 at 6:30 p.m.

LIBRARY HOURS

Monday - Thursday 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Friday & Saturday 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Sunday 2 p.m. - 5 p.m.

CLASSICS ILLUSTRATED

I recently visited my brother, who has always been a comic books fan. For years he has collected the *Classics Illustrated* series, and has an almost complete set, minus one—No. 14, which is *Westward, Ho!* by Charles Kingsley.

Classics Illustrated, an imprint of Elliot Publishing Company, premiered in 1941 with *The Three Musketeers*, an abbreviated version of the Alexandre Dumas novel in comic book form. They followed with *Ivanhoe*, *The Last of the Mohicans*, *Frankenstein*, *Treasure Island*, and many other great old adventure novels. But they didn't stop there.

Along the way they also published famous romances such as *Jane Eyre* and *Wuthering Heights*, and even some Shakespeare, including *Hamlet* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

The final volume in the series came out in 1971. It was No. 169, entitled *Negro Americans: The Early Years*. One of the few volumes not based on a classic work, it was a collection of capsule biographies of famous African-Americans in our history.

While we were looking at his collection, my brother posed an interesting question. If someone were to revive the series now, what stories

would be likely candidates for inclusion? Most of the books used for the original series came from the 19th century, with some coming much earlier. Are there books from the 20th and 21st centuries famous enough, familiar enough, and with the necessary elements to make good comic books?

He suggested stories such as Orwell's *Animal Farm* and *1984*, or *Watership Down* by Richard Adams. I thought Steinbeck's *The Red Pony* and *The Old Man and the Sea* were strong candidates.

The problem is that much of recent literature is more about introspection and stream of consciousness, with shifts of time and other narrative experimentation. Would it be hard to put that into condensed comic book form? How do you illustrate that?

What do you think? If you were going to publish *Classics Illustrated*, what recent books would you include?

And while we're on the subject—does anyone have a copy of *Westward, Ho!* for sale?

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READY SET READ COLORING CONTEST

Our annual Summer Reading Club Coloring Contest was popular again this year, with many entries in all age categories. The colored pictures were displayed in our Children's Room and voted on by the whole library staff. While every submission was, of course, a masterpiece in its own way, we had to choose winners, and here they are:

Ages 2 - 4

1st - Anna Whisler
2nd - Maggie Mooney
3rd - Kelly Lang

Ages 4 - 7

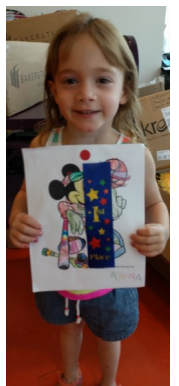
1st - Lexi Drissell
2nd - Alden Pierce
3rd - Lucy Willis

Ages 8 - 11

1st - Anna Pierce
2nd - Kate Graf
3rd - Sofie Hepfinger

Ages 12 - 18

Calli Hepfinger



Anna Whisler accepts her 1st Place prize.

TOP REQUESTS

1. *Before the Fall*,
by Noah Hawley
2. *The Nest*,
by Cynthia D'Aprix Sweeney
3. *Truly Madly Guilty*,
by Liane Moriarty
4. *The Girls*,
by Emma Cline
5. *First Comes Love*,
by Emily Giffin
6. *The Black Widow*,
by Daniel Silva
7. *A Man Called Ove*,
by Fredrik Backman
8. *Falling*,
by Jane Green
9. *White Trash*,
by Nancy Isenberg
10. *Eligible*,
by Curtis Sittenfeld
11. *Barkskins*,
by Annie Proulx
12. *Vinegar Girl*,
by Anne Tyler

SUMMER READING ENDS WITH A BANG!

This year's Summer Reading Clubs, with their theme of exercise and healthy activities, were a great success with all age groups. There were 486 registrations for the children's club, 115 for the teen club, and 180 for the adult club. The program ended on August 1.

One of the popular aspects of the summer reading program are all of the prizes and premiums available. This year's prizes included a BB-8 robot, a 2-day all expenses paid stay at Trout Lodge for a family of four, a drone, Amazon gift cards, a FitBit, and much more.

Thanks to the many local vendors and businesses who gave generously in support of the program, especially the St. Louis Cardinals who always provide many free tickets to their games. Thanks also to the Friends of the Library, who are a major financial sponsor of Summer Reading.

At this writing the winners of all the prizes are being drawn. If you or your family members were in any of the clubs, watch for a notification soon, and good luck!

ON YOUR MARK,
GET SET...
READ

BOOK DISCUSSIONS

Saturday, September 3 at 2 p.m.



The Enchanted April,
by Elizabeth von Arnim

Tuesday, September 6 at 6 p.m.



It Can't Happen Here,
by Sinclair Lewis

WEBSTER GROVES PUBLIC LIBRARY IS ONCE AGAIN A POLLING PLACE

Prior to 2009, the Library was a polling place for many years. It was problematic back then, since we did not have a Meeting Room and we had to clear out our Reading Room to make space for the voting booths and registration tables. Using the Library on voting days was not a pleasant proposition. When we had the vote for our tax levy increase seven and a half years ago, the Board of Elections did not use us as a polling place, for obvious reasons. Then they did not use us again until last year.

We have now been a polling place for the past four elections, and it looks like we will be for the foreseeable future. It's much better than it used to be, now that we have a Meeting Room. The only real problem it causes is with parking, and even that doesn't seem too bad.

We like that the Library can provide one more civic function. We still register voters, so having them vote here is a natural extension of the process.

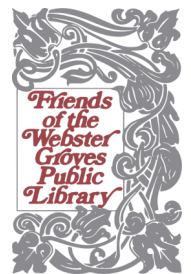


Election judges are sworn in on Primary Election Day, August 2.

FRIENDS NEWS

The Friends recently received a \$5,000 donation from the Dr. Bronner's Family Foundation. This money, as with past donations from the Foundation, is earmarked for landscaping improvements. Watch for the next phase of the ongoing landscaping project.

We want to remind you that the Friends have a [Facebook page](#), where you can keep up with our activities throughout the year.



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